

**UNCTAD**  
**GLOBAL COMMODITIES FORUM 2013**  
Recommitting to commodity sector development  
as an engine of economic growth and poverty reduction

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**Beyond derivatives,  
How to better manage risk exposures in commodity  
dependent countries?**

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# STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

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Beyond derivatives,  
How to better manage risk exposures in commodity  
dependent countries?

18 – 19 March 2013



**GLOBAL  
COMMODITIES  
FORUM**





# STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

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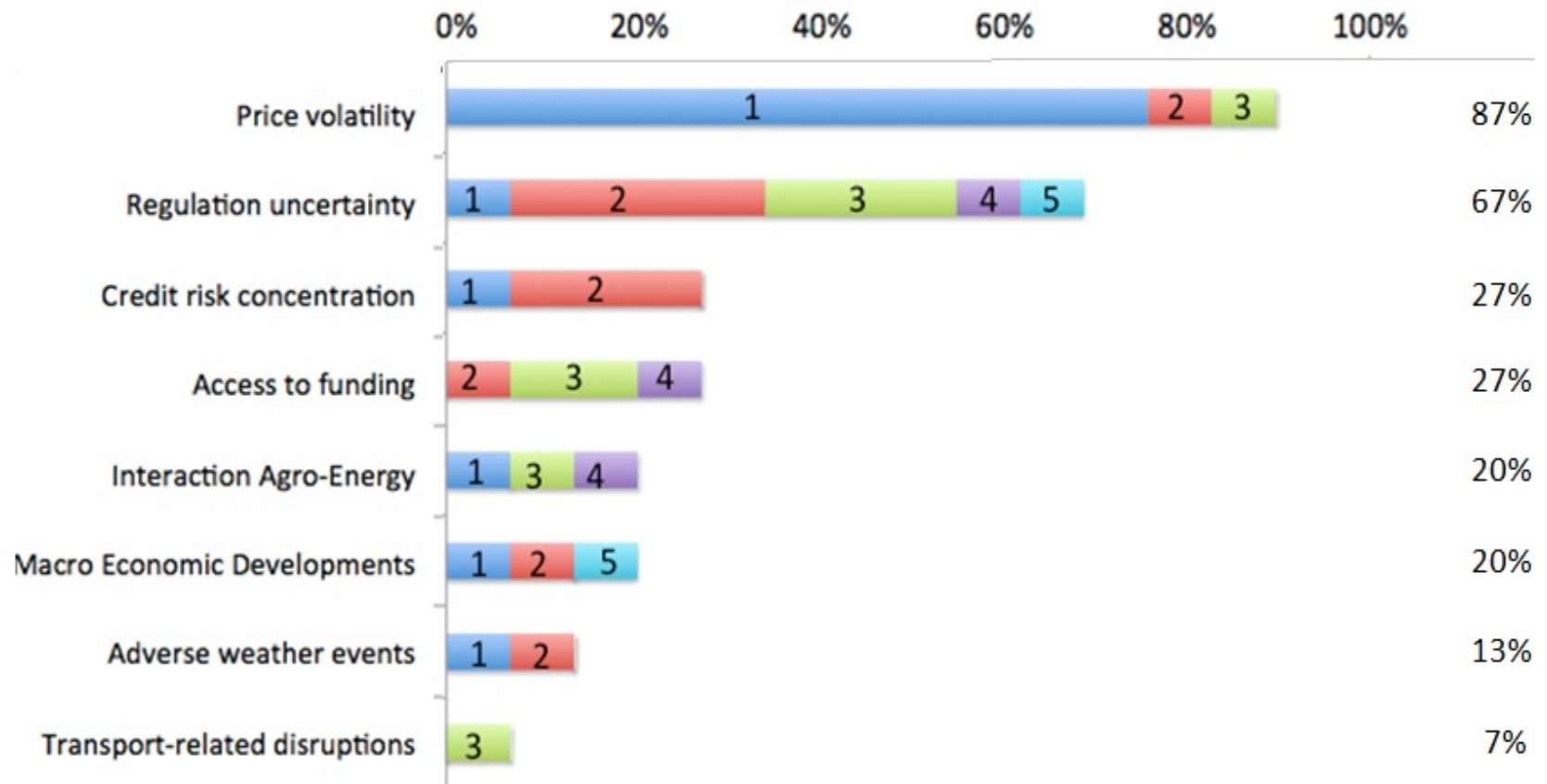
Risk Management is a managerial matter,  
not a trading decision

- Major Private Commodity Companies are convinced that to maintain their leadership they will have to invest heavily in logistics infrastructures and industrial tools
- These investments will be supported by organic growth operations but also by acquisitions
- Their external growth seems to be the fastest and least risky vectors to optimize the risk-return associated with the capture of new markets (both upstream and downstream) and the reduction of uncertainty of "Greenfield" projects
- Commodity and energy market prices Volatility, Regulatory uncertainty and Credit risk concentrations appear as the three most significant risks of their business models
- These risks are perceived as all the more important that they weigh a great deal in the expected volatility of their results and hence, in the financial terms and covenants of the financing they need to get from their banks and markets to finance their development



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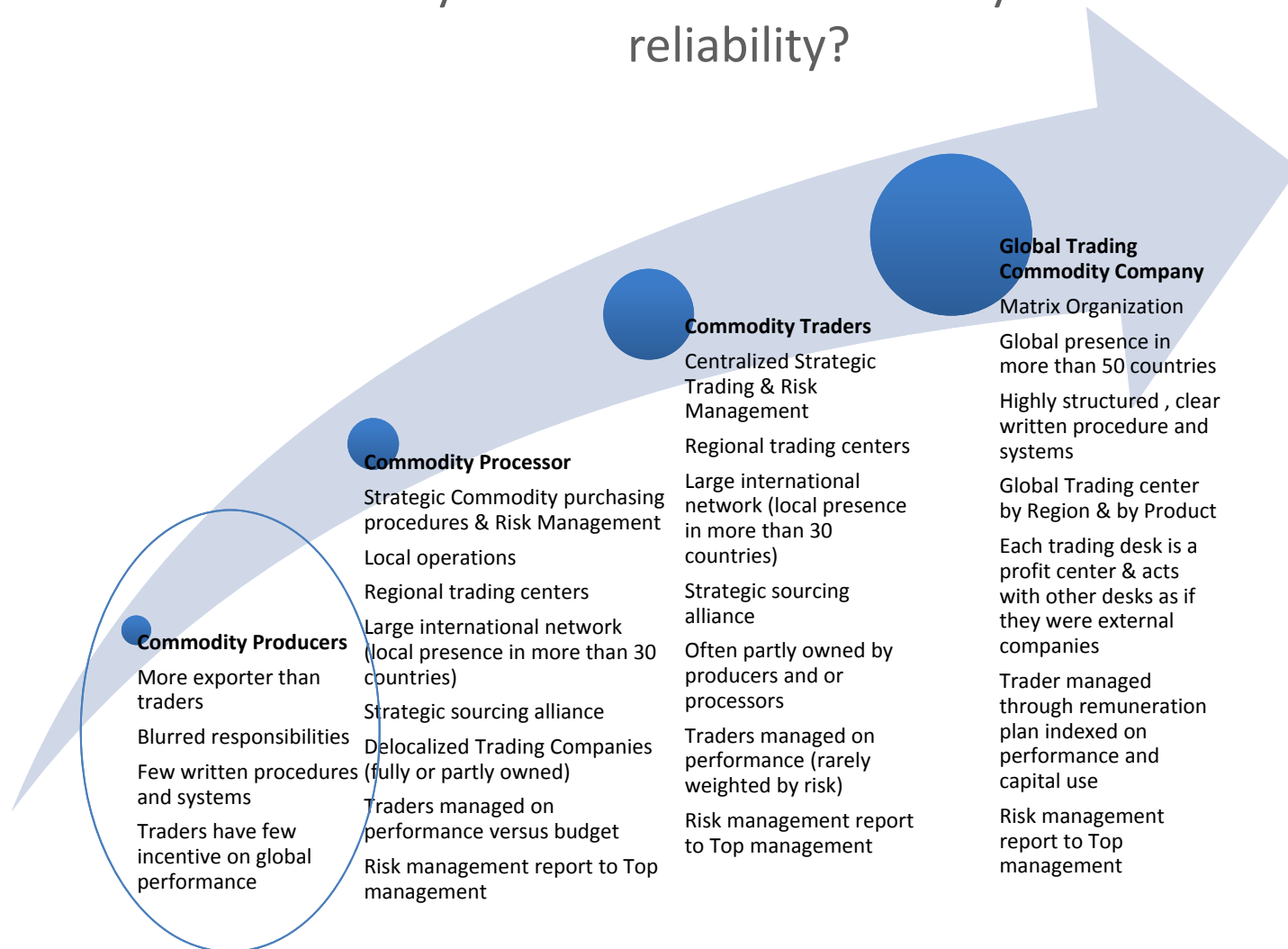
How leading commodity companies perceive and rank their risk exposures ?





# STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

How they deal with risk uncertainty to deliver reliability?

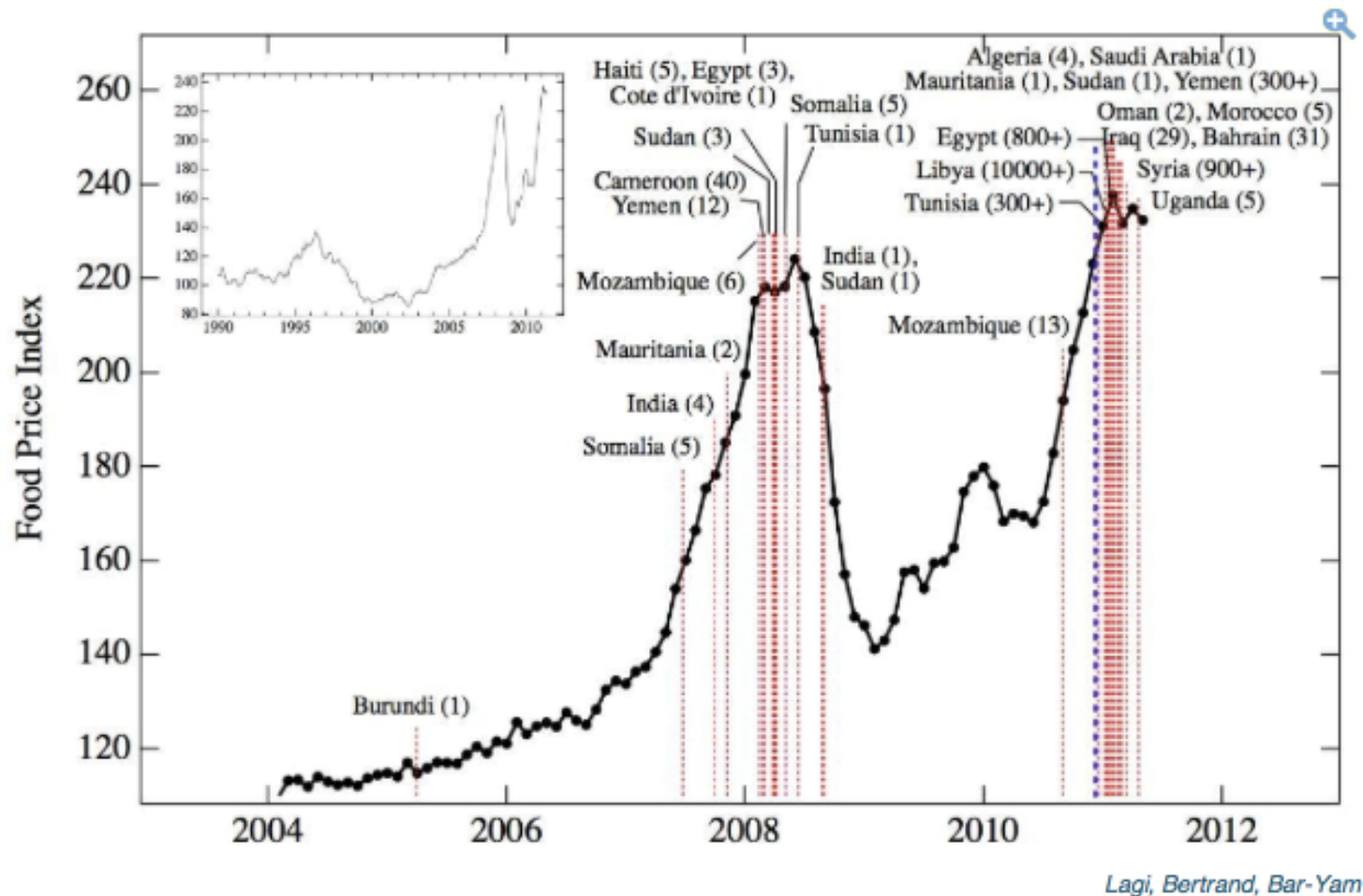


● Company relative size by Sales and numbers of « traders »



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For Leading Commodity Companies, Food Unrests matter but are not a major issue concern





# STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

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For Commodity-Dependent Government or State owned Companies is different

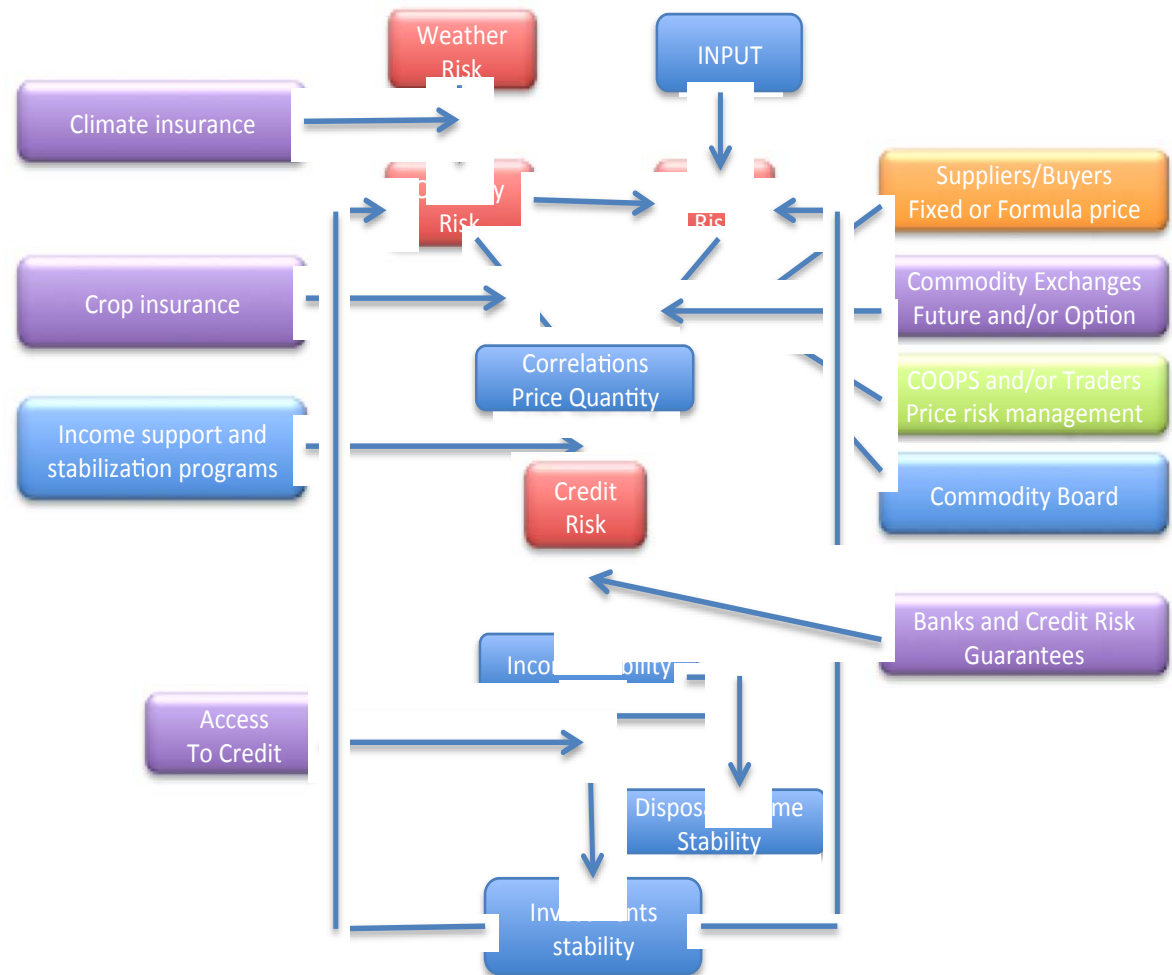
- The Mission of Government and, by delegation, of Commodity Boards and/or State owned Companies is to improve, years after years, the revenues of domestic commodity producers/processors.
- Commodity dependent countries have specific characteristics such as:
  - They are naturally long of commodities on which they are **price takers** and not price maker
  - They are generally **not diversified** in their sources of revenues
  - They have very **poor infrastructures** (physical and financial)
  - They think locally and very rarely globally **while commodity market are global and interconnected**
  - They sell their products to Global traders, often with **a lot of imbedded options** in the contracts.
- Understanding and managing risks for the long term is a key issue for improving local commodity producers/processors revenues



# STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

Stabilizing revenue is NOT ONLY getting a better price than the average annual market price

- **Clear view of your targets and of what it implies**
- **Access to funding** for physical infrastructures (road, storage capacity...)
- A good **understanding of commodities economics** and interactions with production input and other commodities
- Access to financial market for **educated traders** with capacity to trade volatility through physical/future « basis » trade, maturity, quality and geographical arbitrage
- **Strong risk management process and reporting**







# STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

How to fund the transactional risks ?

- **Commodity Value Chain to Finance**
- **Commodity Finance & Risk Management**





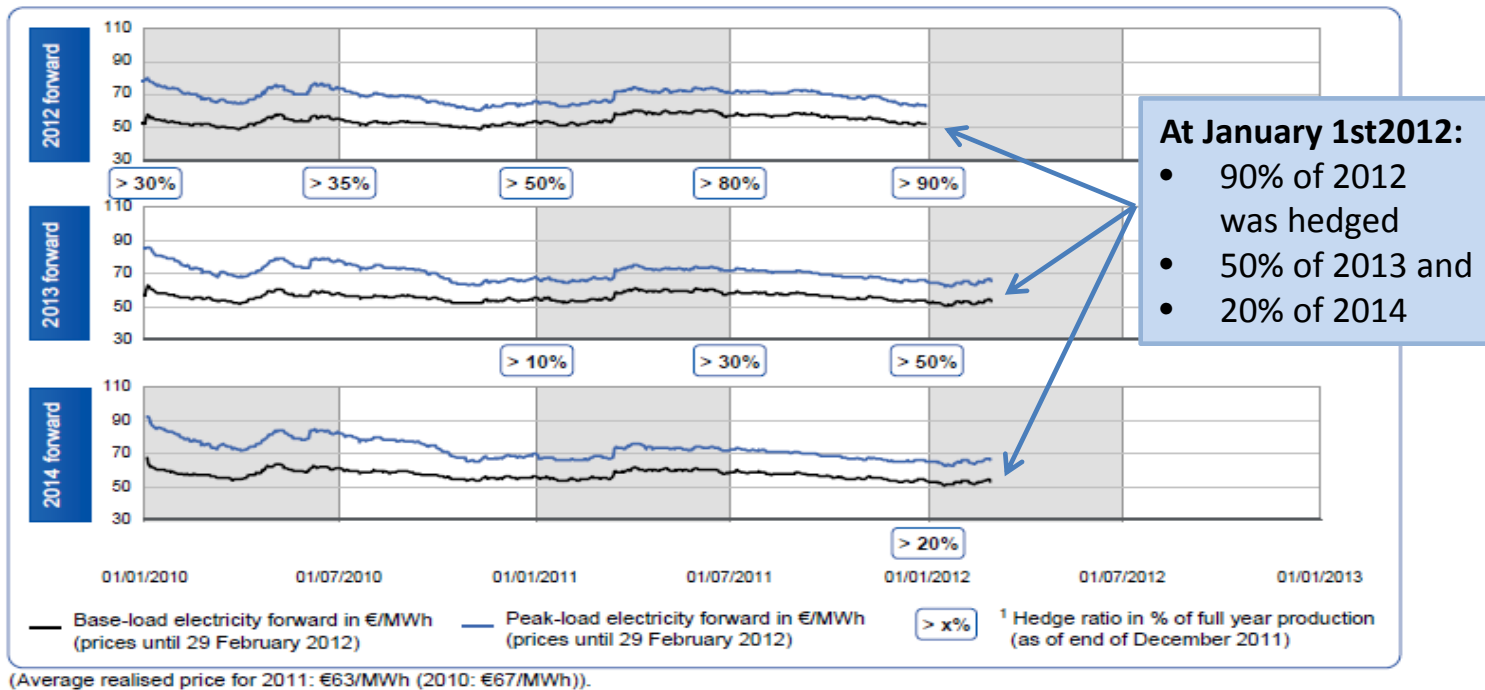
# STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

## How to smooth Long term revenues?

- One way is to use derivatives to hedge, over a three years hedging program, the INPUT and the OUTPUT. Utilities in Europe are frequently using this type of technics for managing their margin (CSS)

### Forward selling<sup>1</sup> by RWE Power in the German market

(Base-load & peak-load forwards in €/MWh)



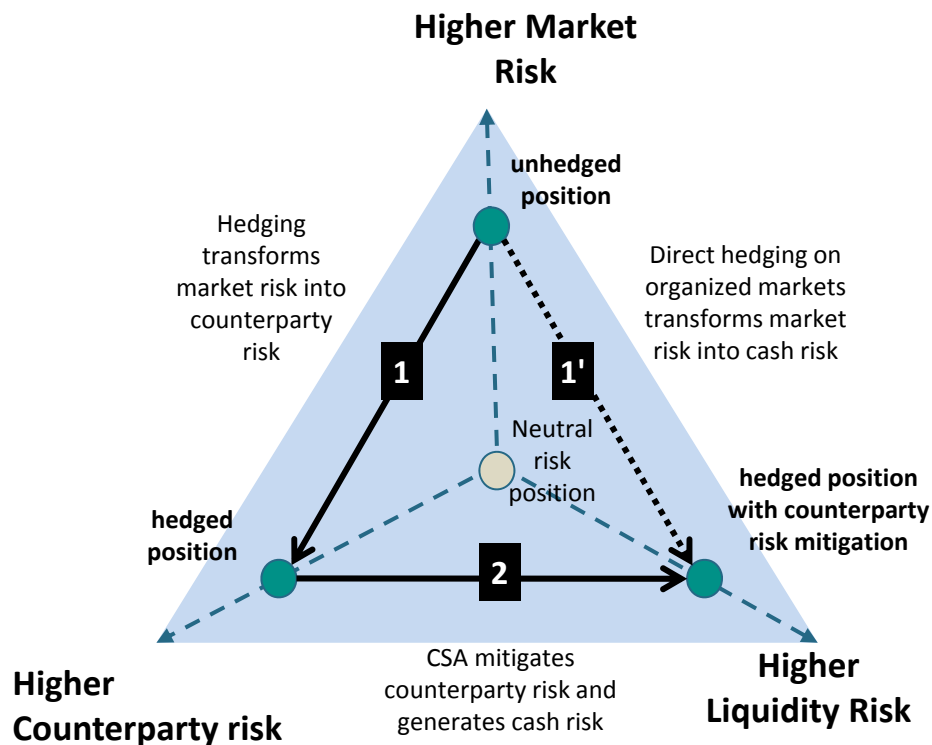


# STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

Provided you have the infrastructures  
and the people you can hedge but some constraints remain

## Hedging constraints

## Market risk vs counterparty risk vs liquidity risk



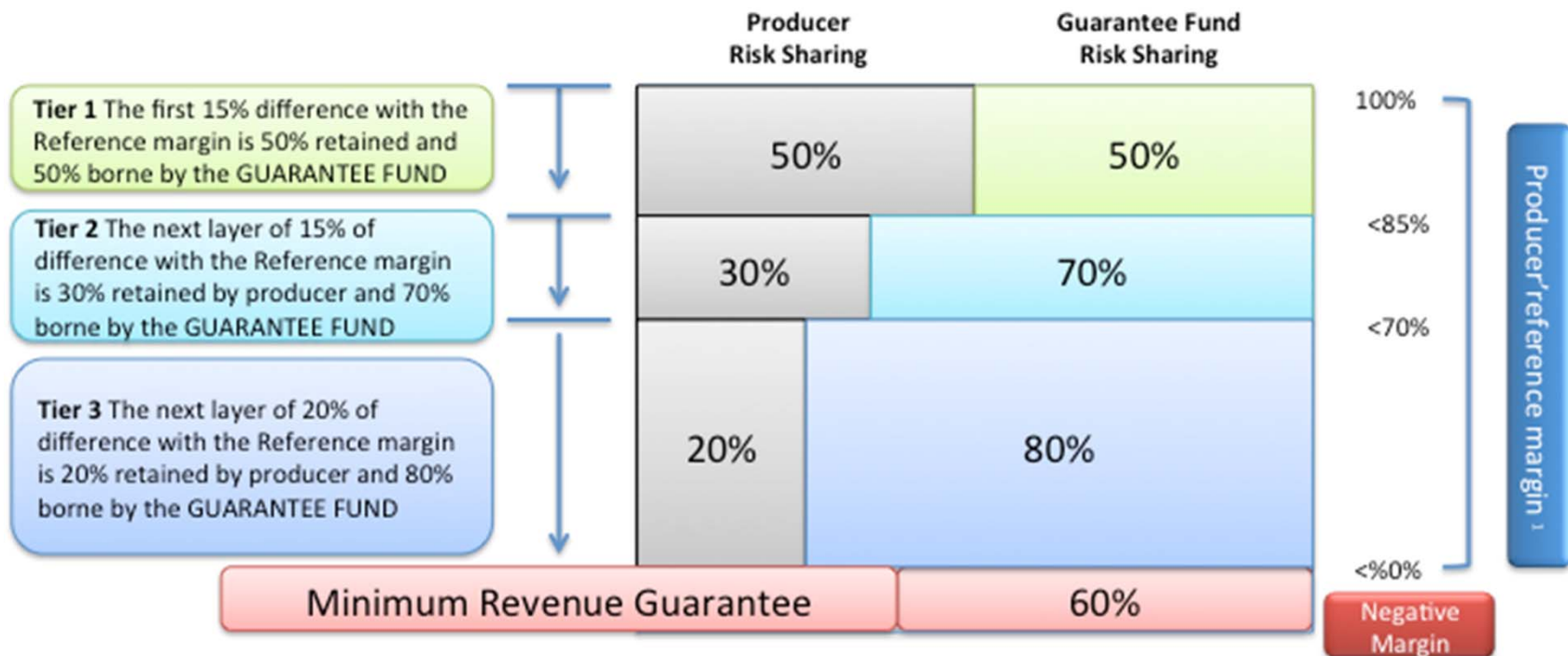
- **Market risk hedging policies should not be subject to any trade off with counterparty risk (as long as hedging is viable<sup>1</sup>)**
- **Unless liquidity becomes an issue, counterparty risk should be mitigated**, with Margining Agreements (CSA) if necessary or deals on organized markets
- Other counterparty risk mitigation tools should always be considered, in particular: selecting highly rated counterparties, ensuring diversification...
- **Liquidity vs. counterparty risk trade off should be regularly assessed and consolidated through an iterative process :**
  - a. Assess needs for additional desired collateralization applying an adequate stress scenario
  - b. All liquidity needs have to be consolidated
  - c. If the impact is acceptable, an ad hoc Risk Committee authorizes the implementation of the desired collateralization  
If not, the ad hoc Risk Committee has to make an arbitrage

1) e.g.: for countries with illiquid markets and a little number of low creditworthiness counterparties, hedging is not viable



# STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

Now let's have a dream to protect producers revenue and make the environment safer and more reliable ?



- The programme largely inspired by Canadian programme could probably be funded X% by the International community (including NGO), Y% by Governments and Z% by Producers themselves
- It obviously implies Governance, accountability, accounting and infrastructures



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